[5th March 1963

Thermal Station

37. *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to permit industries to have their own thermal station in the City of Madras; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) The Government have received a proposal sponsored by a group of industrialists to set up a thermal power station in the private sector near Madras to meet their own requirements. The proposal has the support of this Government.

(*b*) The Government of India who were addressed in the matter are not in favour of the proposal. However, it is proposed to address them again to reconsider their decision.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, was there any proposal from the district of Coimbatore for establishing such power stations in the private sector? What happened to that proposal?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : There was no official proposal to that effect.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, some time before there was a proposal from the mill-owners of Coimbatore to have their own thermal stations. What happened to that proposal? Will the Government take it up and ask the mill-owners to have their own thermal stations so that the others may have the supply from the public sector?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I presume there was an idea like that, but no proposal. The only proposal the Government had was from the group of industrialists at Ennore, and it is in respect thereof we have taken steps.

Match Factory

38. *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any factory was started for the manufacture of matches at Perambur in 1956 in the Public Sector;

(*b*) if, so whether it is still functioning; and

(*c*) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) to (*c*) : The Government Handmade Match Factory at Perambur which was started in September 1956 had to be closed down with effect from 30th June 1961 as it continued to sustain loss due to the non-availability of labour at the rates offered in the locality to work the factory to its full capacity.